

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:

a lead body having an insulator and having at least one conductor, and wherein the insulator comprises,

a first region formed by removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the first region exposing at least a portion of the at least one conductor, and

a second region formed by removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the second region exposing at least a portion of the at least one conductor;

a first conductive pad positioned within the first region and electrically connected to the at least one conductor;

a second conductive pad positioned within the second region and electrically connected to the at least one conductor; and

at least one electrode welded to the first conductive pad and welded to the second conductive pad to electrically connect the at least one electrode ~~electrically connected~~ to the at least one conductor through the first region and ~~electrically connected~~ to the at least one conductor through the second region.

4. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 3 wherein the lead body further comprises a distal end and a proximal end, and the first region, the second region and the at least one electrode are located proximate the distal end of the lead body.

5. (Currently Amended) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 4 wherein the insulator further comprises,

a third region formed by removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the third region exposing at least a portion of the at least one conductor, and

a fourth region formed by removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the fourth region exposing at least a portion of the at least one conductor; and

wherein the lead further comprises,

a third conductive pad positioned within the third region and electrically connected to the at least one conductor;

a fourth conductive pad positioned within the third region and electrically connected to the at least one conductor; and

a second electrode welded to the third conductive pad and welded to the fourth conductive pad to electrically connect the second electrode ~~electrically connected~~ to the at least one conductor through the third region and ~~electrically connected~~ to the at least one conductor through the fourth region; and

wherein the third region, the fourth region and the second electrode are located proximate the proximal end of the lead body.

6. (Currently Amended) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 3 wherein the lead body further comprises:

a second conductor;

and wherein the insulator further comprises,

a third region formed by removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the third region exposing at least a portion of the second conductor, and

a fourth region formed by removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the fourth region exposing at least a portion of the second conductor; and

a third conductive pad positioned within the third region and electrically connected to the second conductor;

a fourth conductive pad positioned within the fourth region and electrically connected to the second conductor; and

a second electrode welded to the first conductive pad and welded to the second conductive pad to electrically connect the at least one electrode electrically connected to the second conductor through the third region and ~~electrically connected~~ to the second conductor through the fourth region.

7. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 6 wherein the lead body further comprises a distal end and a proximal end, and the first region, the second region and the at least one electrode are located proximate the distal end of the lead body.

8. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 7 wherein the third region, the fourth region and the second electrode are located proximate the distal end of the lead body.

9. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:

a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator comprises,

a first welding region formed by removal of at least a first portion of the insulator from the lead body, at least a portion of the first welding region formed to expose at least a first portion of the at least one conductor, and

a second welding region formed by removal of at least a second portion of the insulator from the lead body, at least a portion of the second welding region formed to expose at least a second portion of the at least one conductor;

a first conductive element having at least a portion thereof positioned within the first welding region, the first conductive element welded ~~electrically connected~~ to the at least one conductor;

a second conductive element positioned within the second welding region, the second conductive element welded ~~electrically connected~~ to the at least one conductor; and

a band electrically connected to the first conductive element and electrically connected to the second conductive element.

10. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 9 wherein the band is welded to the first conductive element and welded to the second conductive element.

11. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 10 wherein the first welding region comprises a first groove cut in the insulator, and the second welding region comprises a second groove cut in the insulator.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 9 wherein the band is electrically connected to the first conductive element ~~is electrically connected to the at least one conductor~~ using a conductive adhesive.

14. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, comprising:

a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator comprises,

a first welding region formed by removal of at least a first portion of the insulator from the lead body, at least a portion of the first welding region formed to expose at least a first portion of the at least one conductor, and

a second welding region formed by removal of at least a second portion of the insulator from the lead body, at least a portion of the second welding region formed to expose at least a second portion of the at least one conductor;

a first conductive pad within the first welding region, the first conductive pad electrically connected to the at least one conductor;

a second conductive pad within the second welding region, the second conductive pad electrically connected to the at least one conductor; and

a band welded to the first conductive pad at the first welding region to electrically connect the band to the at least one conductor, and welded to the second conductive pad at the second welding region to electrically connect the band to the at least one conductor.

15. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 14 wherein the first welding region comprises a first groove cut in the insulator, and the second welding region comprises a second groove cut in the insulator.

16. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 15 wherein the first groove and the second groove run parallel to the at least one conductor.

17. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 14 wherein the first conductive pad is electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a weld, and the second conductive pad is electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a weld.

18. (Previously Presented) The medical lead in accordance with Claim 14 wherein each of the first welding region, the second welding region, the first conductive pad, the second conductive pad, and the band are positioned proximate a distal end of the lead body, and wherein the insulator positioned proximate a proximal end of the lead body further comprises a third welding region formed by removal of at least a third portion of the insulator from the lead body, at least a portion of the third welding region formed to expose at least a third portion of the at least one conductor, and the lead body further comprises:

a third conductive pad within the third welding region, the third conductive pad electrically connected to the at least one conductor; and

a second band welded to the third conductive pad at the third welding region to electrically connect the second band to the at least one conductor.